

Abstract

A device for transmitting torque between two rotatable, coaxial shaft members (1, 2) contains a clutch (35) between the two shaft members and engageable - to counteract rotational speed differential between the shaft members - by means of a hydraulic piston (18) under the control of an electrically controlled throttle or pressure valve (26), and a clutch pump (36) for supplying hydraulic pressure to the hydraulic piston, the clutch pump being driven by either one or both of the shaft members. The hydraulic piston (18), the valve (26), and the clutch pump (36) are connected in a hydraulic system also containing a feeder pump (31) for maintaining a certain base pressure in the system. Means are provided in the hydraulic system for conditionally allowing flow from the feeder pump (31) past the valve (26) to the hydraulic piston (18) irrespective of the flow from the clutch pump (36).